




**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION  
DIVISION OF MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES  
ANDREW JACKSON BUILDING  
500 DEADERICK STREET, 15<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243**

**MEMORANDUM**

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To: DMRS Contracted Providers  
Community Stakeholders  
DMRS Offices

From: Stephen H. Norris, Deputy Commissioner 

Re: Falls Prevention Training

Date: March 3, 2005

Beginning February 1, 2005, a new training on preventing falls, entitled *Falls: Causes and Preventative Strategies* became available for all providers, interested stakeholders, and DMRS staff. This curriculum was developed in response to trends in data indicating that a high percentage of serious injuries are due to falls.

The trend analysis report, *Compilation and Analysis of Incident and Investigation Data for the Period: January 2001 through March 2004* further highlighted this trend indicating falls caused 46% of the serious injuries. This pattern has continued to prove significant in more recent data.

The Regional Office Physical Therapists are currently conducting ongoing training on these materials in each of the regions, per the regional training calendars, and can also be contacted at the numbers below to schedule to come to any agency/group and present as well:

West Tennessee:	Jun Pacris, PT	901-213-1843
Middle Tennessee:	Sheila Robertson, PT	615-231-5427
East Tennessee:	Linda Fall, PT	865-588-0508 x199

Many thanks to agencies that assisted in the piloting of this training curriculum and resources.

SHN:kw

Cc: Louis Moore, MD  
Larry Latham  
Adadot Hayes, MD  
Donna Allen  
CO Directors  
Regional Directors